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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/760,552	01/21/2004	Yasushi Yokomitsu	L8612.04101	8634
24257	7590	02/16/2011		
Dickinson Wright PLLC James E. Ledbetter, Esq. International Square 1875 Eye Street, NW., Suite 1200 WASHINGTON, DC 20006			EXAMINER HAMZA, FARUK	
			ART UNIT 2442	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 02/16/2011	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/760,552

Applicant(s)

YOKOMITSU ET AL.

Examiner

FARUK HAMZA

Art Unit

2442

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 August 2010.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 2,3,6-17 and 19-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 2,3,6-17 and 19-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-945)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to the amendment filed on August 13, 2010. Claims 1, 4, 5 and 18 have been canceled. Claims 2-3, 6-17 and 19-20 have been amended. Claims 21-22 have been newly added. Claims 2-3, 6-17 and 19-22 are pending.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

2. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on August 13, 2010 has been entered.

Title

3. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Specification

4. Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to ***a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer***

tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 2-3, 6-7, 10, 12, 14-16 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Borella et al. (U.S. Patent Number 6,353,614) hereinafter referred as Borella.

As to claim 21, Borella teaches a server apparatus for being connected to a relay device, the relay device having a port forwarding feature and a wide area network address in a wide area network and for

being connected to at least one other server, the server apparatus comprising:

a port management controller which receives a predetermined port number or another port number from the relay device and registers the received port number, wherein the predetermined port number corresponds to a representative server, wherein when the port management controller receives the predetermined port number as the received port number, the port management controller acquires the wide area network address of the relay device and port number information related to the at least one other server, and, in response to an access from a terminal device in the wide area network, provides the terminal device with the wide area network address of the relay device and the port number information (abstract, Column 7, lines 45-57, Column 8, lines 63-Column 9, lines 30, Column 12, lines 15-27, Column 14, lines 15-40).

As to claim 2, Borella teaches the server according to claim 21, wherein when a request is issued to the relay device, in case the predetermined number is unregistered, the port management means is assigned the predetermined port number, in case the predetermined port number is registered, the port management means is assigned another port number (Column 9, lines 31-50).

As to claim 3, Borella teaches the server according to claim 21, wherein in case it is assigned to the predetermined port number, said port

management means periodically requests port mapping information (Column 11, lines 27-36).

As to claim 6, Borella teaches the server according to claim 21, wherein in case the server is assigned a predetermined port number, the port management means requests use registration information from the relay device and fetches port mapping information from the use registration information (Column 11, lines 27-36).

As to claim 7, Borella teaches the server according to claim 21, wherein in case the server is assigned a predetermined port number, the port management means notifies the other server of its port number assigned (Column 5, lines 8-13).

As to 10, Borella teaches the server according to claim 21, wherein when the server has detected that a server registered to a predetermined port number withdrew from the LAN, another server transmits an identification message to register itself to the predetermined port (Column 14, lines 29-40).

As to 12, Borella teaches the server according claim 10, wherein after detection of withdrawal, another server is registered to the predetermined port based on the mapped port numbers (Column 14, lines 29-40).

As to claim 14, Borella teaches the server according to claim 10, wherein a server registered to a predetermined port number communicates as a single unit a withdrawal notice message to the servers

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in the LAN to notify that the server has withdrawn from the LAN (Column 5, lines 8-13).

As to claim 15, Borella teaches the server according to any one of claims 10 through 13, wherein a server in the LAN detects that there is no inquiry about port mapping information from the server registered to a predetermined port number to detect that the server has withdrawn from the LAN (Column 5, lines 8-13).

As to claim 16, Borella teaches the server according to claim 10, wherein all servers in the LAN make inquiries to the server registered to a predetermined port number about its presence and receiving no response, detects the server has withdrawn from the LAN (Column 5, lines 8-13).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Borella and in view of Belknap et al. (U.S. Patent Number 6,763,377) hereinafter referred as Belknap.

Borella teaches the server of claim 21 ().

Borella does not explicitly teach the claim limitation of a camera, an image data generator, which processes a picture signal of a picture shot

with the camera to encode the signal, and a web server section, which transmits the image data to a wide area network, wherein the server transmits a photographed image as an image server.

However, Belknap teaches the claim limitation of a camera, an image data generator, which processes a picture signal of a picture shot with the camera to encode the signal, and a web server section, which transmits the image data to a wide area network, wherein the server transmits a photographed image as an image server (Column 10, lines 1-15).

It would have been obvious to the ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the system of Borella by incorporating Belknap's teaching of managing media assets in a network through graphical user interface, which would facilitate to manage media assets remotely. One would be motivated to do such to enhance system's usability.

7. Claims 8-9, 18-19 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Borella and in view of Kadota (U.S. Patent Number 6,697,073) hereinafter referred as Kadota.

As to claim 22, Borella teaches a server apparatus connected to a secondary network of a relay device which transfers packets from a first network to the secondary network in accordance with a destination port number, the server apparatus for being connected to at least one other server, wherein the server apparatus requests the relay device to assign a predetermined port number out of port numbers used for data transfer,

determines that the predetermined port number has been assigned, acquires port assignment information on the at least one other server from the relay device (abstract, Column 7, lines 45-57, Column 8, lines 63-Column 9, lines 30, Column 12, lines 15-27, Column 14, lines 15-40).

Borella does not explicitly teach the claim limitation of generate display information including the port assignment information, and transmits the display information in response to an access from a terminal device in the first network via the relay device.

However, Kadota teaches the claim imitation of generate display information including the port assignment information, and transmits the display information in response to an access from a terminal device in the first network via the relay device (fig. 2, Column 10, lines 36-52).

It would have been obvious to the ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the system of Borella by incorporating Kadota's teaching displaying port information because that would enable the system to visualize the port numbers so users would be able to distinguish different devices.

As to claim 8, Kadota teaches the server according to any one of claims 21, 2, 3, 6 and 7, further comprising: a web page generating section and generating a web page where address information on other servers is attached in a linkable fashion (fig. 2, Column 10, lines 36-52).

As to claim 9, Kadota teaches the server according claim 8, wherein the port management means adds host names for identification to

other servers and posts the host names in the address information (fig. 2, Column 10, lines 36-52).

As to claim 19, Borella teaches the server apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the server apparatus requests assignment of the predetermined port number used for the data transfer and address information on the first network of the relay device from the relay device (Column 9, lines 31-50).

As to claim 20, Borella teaches the server apparatus according to claim 22 or 19, wherein the server apparatus periodically acquires the port assignment information (Column 11, lines 27-36).

Examiner's Note: Examiner has cited particular columns and line numbers in the references as applied to the claims above for the convenience of the applicant. Although the specified citations are representative of the teachings of the art and are applied to the specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may apply as well. It is respectfully requested from the applicant in preparing responses, to fully consider the references in its entirety as potentially teaching of all or part of the claimed invention, as well as the context.

Allowable Subject Matter

8. Claims 11 and 13 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to Arguments

9. Applicant's arguments have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.
10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Faruk Hamza whose telephone number is 571-272-7969. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenton Burgess can be reached at 571-272-3949. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 886-217-9197 (toll –free).

Faruk Hamza

Primary Examiner

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